

soc.u.01.4 Mrs. Polifax-
Spy

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NEWSMAKERSsoc.u.01.2 Amazing Mrs.
Polifax

It sounded like a hellish ordeal for anyone, let alone a live wire like Hollywood's Rosalind Russell, 59. Her hands, elbows, shoulders, feet and ankles were so plagued by rheumatoid arthritis that she was dividing her time between bed and a warm tub. "I happen to have a high threshold of pain—but, oh, boy," said Roz. "I couldn't brush my teeth. I couldn't comb my hair." Much better now, though still limping slightly and shy about shaking hands, she popped up in London for the benefit première of her new movie, "Mrs. Polifax—Spy," with half the proceeds earmarked for arthritis research. Roz isn't certain what caused her recovery, but gold injections seem to have helped. "I have a piece of the most valuable anatomy in the world," she told the Daily Mail. "I call it my golden posterior."

From all accounts, that was a dilly of a speech to a women's club in Ridgewood, N.J., by Connie Stuart, 32, head of Pat Nixon's staff—especially when she got on the subject of the White House women's press corps. "I was slightly offended," recalled Ann Warwick of The Ridgewood Herald-News. "She made the women in the press out to be dumb-dumbs." Jean Bennett of The Bergen Record said she was shocked when she heard the newswomen who cover the First Lady being called "hysterical" and "leeches." As for Mrs. Stuart, when word of her reported remarks got back to Washington, she denied the unflattering quotes but was happy to confirm one line in reporter Bennett's story—the one that credited Connie with "one of the best pairs of legs in the Capital."